



**ALAMEDA COUNTY HEALTH CARE SERVICES AGENCY
PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

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Clerk of the Board
Air Resources Board
1001 I Street, 23rd Floor
Sacramento, CA 95814

XC: Board Members 06-1-4
Chairman CEW 1/26/05
TJ MHS
KT Legal (AM/KO) SSD

Dear Air Resource Board Members,

The Alameda County Tobacco Control Program supports the proposal by the California Air Resources Board to classify environmental tobacco smoke (ETS) as a toxic air contaminant. These measures are vital to ensure the health of all Californians.

ETS is identified as a Class A carcinogen, according to the Environmental Protection Agency. Some of the effects of ETS include Sudden Infant Death Syndrome, increased asthma in children, lung cancer, nasal sinus cancer, heart attacks, spontaneous abortion, and cervical cancer. This is only a partial list, and new findings continue to link ETS to increased risk of disease.

It should be noted that your actions should be welcomed by the majority of Californians. A recent survey found both smokers (82.7 percent) and nonsmokers (92.9 percent) believe any exposure to ETS is harmful to one's health.

By classifying ETS as a toxic air contaminant, the Air Resources Board will help make California communities healthier and safer. We urge and support your adoption of this measure.

Sincerely,

Paul Cummings
Director,
Tobacco Control Program

